

Size: 1,480 acres
Mission: Served as Headquarters for the 6th Army, the Letterman Army Institute of Research, and the Letterman Army Medical Center
HRS Score: NA
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, solvents, pesticides, and lead-based paint
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$79.3 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$20.9 million (FY2009)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2005



San Francisco, California

Restoration Background

In December 1988, the BRAC Commission recommended closure of the Presidio of San Francisco, including the Letterman Army Medical Center (Letterman AMC). The BRAC Commission made this recommendation primarily because the installation had no ability to expand, and the Presidio and Letterman AMC functions could be relocated. The Army transferred the installation property to the National Park Service in October 1994 with the Army retaining responsibility for the cleanup.

Sites identified during studies at the installation include underground storage tanks (USTs), a fuel distribution system, landfills, hazardous waste storage areas, and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-containing electrical transformers. The most prominent sources of contamination are leaking USTs and a heating-fuel distribution system, which have caused petroleum contamination in groundwater and soil. Other contaminants include heavy metals, solvents, and pesticides.

Investigations began in the late 1980s. The installation is divided into nine operable units (OUs). The Army manages six OUs: the Public Health Services Hospital, the Main Installation, the Crissy Field Area, the Firing Range Areas, the CERCLA Tank Sites, and the Department of Engineering and Housing (DEH) Area. The Golden Gate Bridge District and CALTrans and the US Coast Guard manage three other OUs.

Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities began in FY90. All RI fieldwork was completed during FY95, and the final RI report was published in FY97. The installation completed an Environmental Baseline Survey (CERFA) report in FY94.

In FY94, the installation formed a BRAC cleanup team (BCT) and converted the technical review committee to a Restoration Advisory

Board (RAB). The RAB meets monthly to address issues related to restoration activities and comments from its members on restoration documents and plans. The BCT meets monthly and focuses on risk management decisions. The National Park Service also began implementing a general management plan for reuse of the property.

Cleanup actions at the installation have included UST removal and soil excavation for Petroleum Sites; a Record of Decision for the Public Health Services Hospital Area (formerly Letterman AMC), a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for Crissy Field, and a RAP for the former DEH Area. Closure-related compliance actions include cleanup at two PCB-contaminated sites, an installationwide radon survey, radiological survey and material disposal, and asbestos and lead-based paint surveys and abatement for buildings and surrounding soil.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation completed Interim Removal Actions for PCB-contaminated soil at Building 1153. The installation removed 20,000 feet of fuel distribution system pipeline and an additional 20 USTs. In addition, the installation removed approximately 50,000 tons of contaminated soil from the Crissy Field Area. Another 30,000 tons was removed from the DEH Area. The installation used innovative methods, such as on-site laboratories, geoprobes, and magnetometers, to accelerate work.

The installation used technical working groups to resolve technical issues at Crissy Field and the DEH Area. The Army developed the program schedule, monitored the BRAC budget, and synchronized cleanup with reuse activities. The installation conducted three site tours for RAB members in FY98.

The Army is negotiating with the Presidio Trust on the Trust's assumption of responsibilities for cleanup of the Presidio. The Trust, the National Park Service, and the Army signed a Memorandum of Agreement on how to pursue negotiations on the issue. Meanwhile, the Army continues restoration work so that there is no delay in the Presidio's cleanup.

Plan of Action

- Complete UST removal and remediation at the Crissy Field Area in FY99
- Complete main installation FS and RAP in FY99
- Complete corrective action plans at Buildings 207/231, 637, 1349, and 1065 in FY99
- Complete RIs, FSs, and RAPs for CERCLA tank sites and the Outdoor Firing Range in FY99
- Complete PCB cleanup at Building 680 in FY99
- Complete remediation of Nike magazines in FY99
- Complete investigation of Commissary Area in FY99

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

